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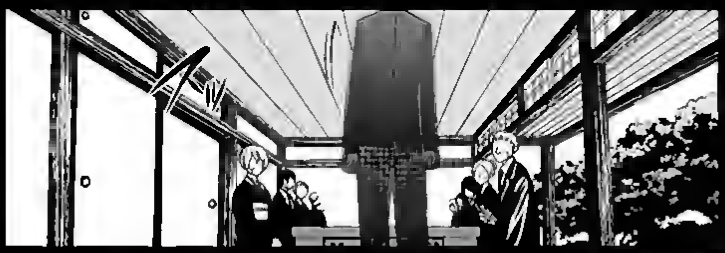
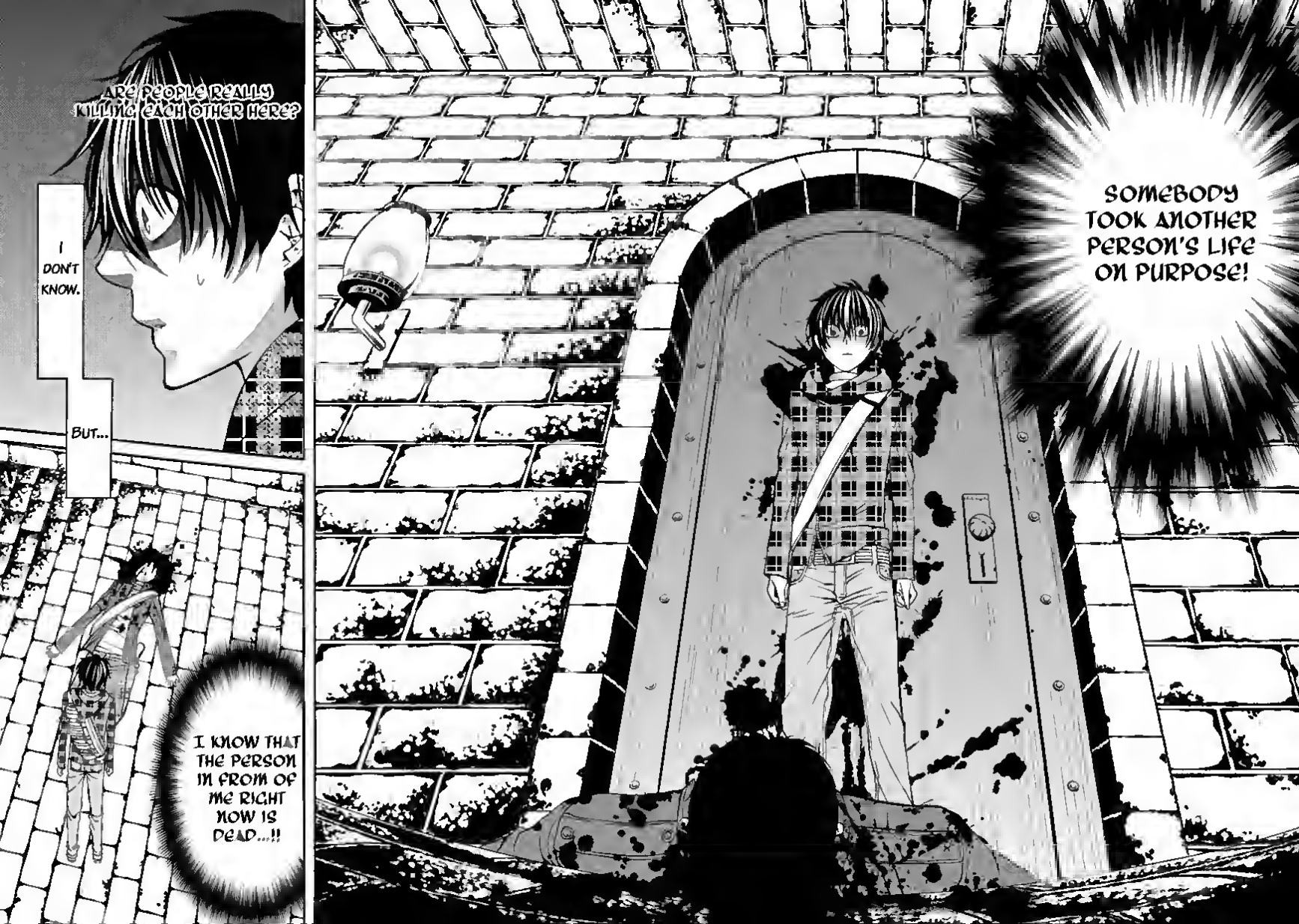


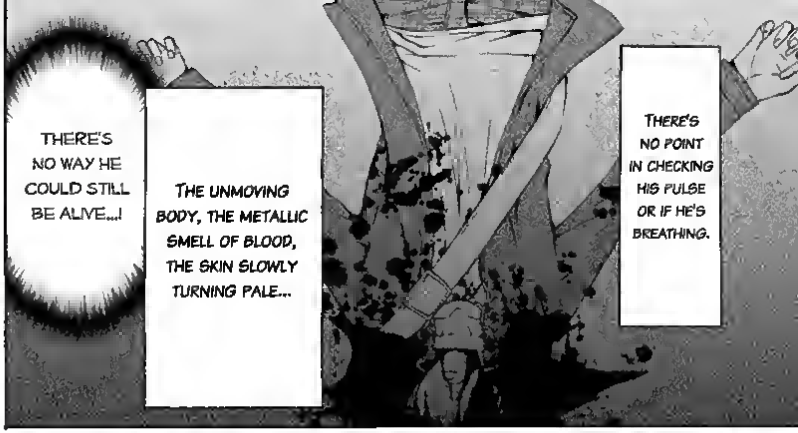
scene 2 : THE GAME BEGINS.

IT'S OKAY
I'M HERE FOR YOU, SHOUTA. YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY
WAIT, SOUICHI-KUN! YOU...!
IS THIS OKAY BIG BRO-THER?
THAT'S THE ONLY THING I CAN'T DO FOR YOU.
I WANT TO SEE...
MOM AND DAD...

IT'LL BE ALRIGHT.
ぽん
BIG BROTHER IS HERE FOR YOU

BUT THIS DEATH WAS DIFFERENT.
BECAUSE MY IMAGE OF DEATH WAS THE DEATH OF MY PARENTS IN AN ACCIDENT.
I THOUGHT THAT
DEATH WAS SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED SUDDENLY, REGARDLESS OF A PERSON'S SITUATION, OR WHETHER THEY WERE GOOD OR EVIL.
I SUDDENLY RECALLED MY PARENTS' FUNERAL.


ARE PEOPLE REALLY KILLING EACH OTHER HERE?
I DON'T KNOW.
BUT...
I KNOW THAT THE PERSON IN FROM OF ME RIGHT NOW IS DEAD...!!
SOMEBODY TOOK ANOTHER PERSON'S LIFE ON PURPOSE!


THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD STILL BE ALIVE...!
THE UNMOVING BODY, THE METALLIC SMELL OF BLOOD, THE SKIN SLOWLY TURNING PALE...
THERE'S NO POINT IN CHECKING HIS PULSE OR IF HE'S BREATHING.

UGH, THAT'S DISGUST-ING...

WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING...?
YOU SHOULD GET AWAY FROM THERE SOON.
IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN FIVE MINUTES AND SOMEONE'S ALREADY DEAD THINGS ARE GOING TO BE PRETTY EXCITING THIS TIME!
THERE'S SO MUCH BLOOD!
I'LL TAKE A SCREEN SHOT AS A SOUVENIR OF THIS LOL
SUDDENLY SMASHING SOMEONE'S HEAD OPEN IS WAY TOO GRUESOME!

THERE'S SOME-ONE DEAD HERE, YOU KNOW?!
WHY ARE YOU ACTING LIKE THIS IS FUN?!
.....
BECAUSE THIS IS THAT KIND OF GAME, RIGHT?
DON'T...
MOVE IT ALONG ALREADY
I'M BORED OF IT
THIS KIND OF SCENE HAPPENS EVERY TIME
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!

THERE'S NO POINT IN TELLING US THAT LOL
I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
IT'S NOT LIKE WE WANT TO KNOW ANYWAY LOL
WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT NOT BEING THERE TO SEE IT, YOU IDIOT
EARLIER THEY WERE GIVING ME ADVICE AND WORRYING ABOUT ME,
BUT NOW...
SO I FELT LIKE THE PEOPLE IN THE CHAT ROOM WERE ON MY SIDE.
SOMEONE DIED! THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN CALL THIS A GAME!
THE ONLY REASON YOU CAN SAY THAT IS BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT STANDING HERE WATCHING THIS! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO SMELL ALL THIS BLOOD!
YOU CAN'T SEE HIS SKIN TURNING PALE!

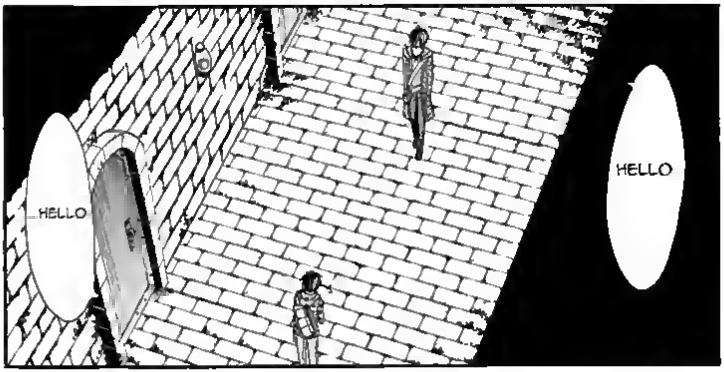
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THESE PEOPLE ARE THINKING!!

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
I'M PRETTY SURE I'VE BEEN THE ONLY ONE HERE SINCE I WOKE UP,
BUT NOW I SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE SOMEONE ELSE IS HERE.
NOT THE PEOPLE WATCHING.
NOT THE DEAD MAN.
I WANT TO SEE A LIVING PERSON!
BIG BRO-THER...!

AH!
A PERSON!
HE'S ALIVE!

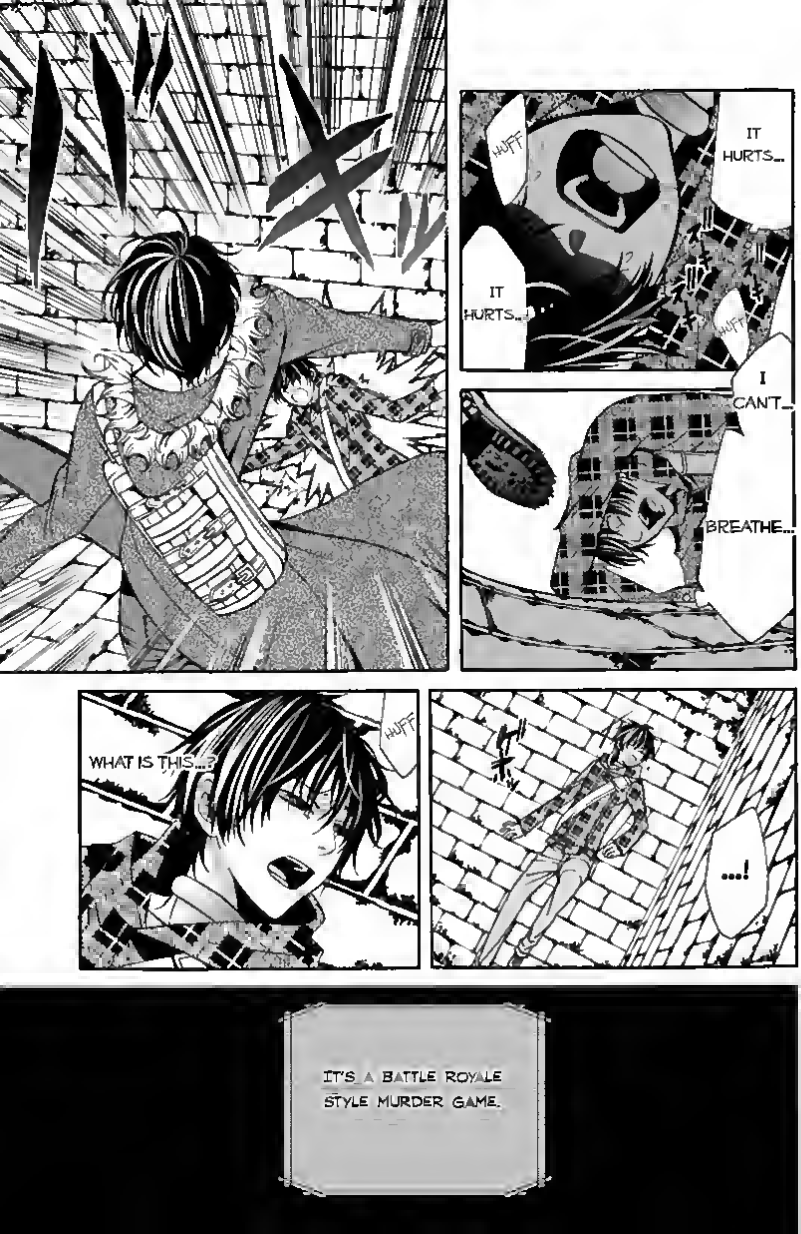
WHY ARE YOU TALKING TO HIM?
HE MIGHT BE THE KILLER
THERE'S A DANGEROUS GUY THERE
RUN!
YOU'VE GOT NO WEAPONS! GET OUT OF THERE! GET OUT OF THERE!
AH
UMM...
THAT'S RIGHT.
THE ONE WHO KILLED THAT MAN MIGHT STILL BE AROUND HERE. .
HUH...

スクウェア・エニックスが挑む新世界!!
本気のWEBマガジン登場!!
ガンガンONLINE



..SOME-ONE'S DEAD
SOME-
SOME-ONE
SOME-ONE'S
Hahaha!
NO WAY! DON'T SCARE ME WITH THAT KIND OF TALK
IT'S TRUE!
THERE'S REALLY A BODY OVER THERE..
OH?
WELL, THAT'S TERRIBLE...

HUH...


IT HURTS...
HUFF
IT HURTS...
HUFF
I CAN'T...
BREATHE...
HUFF
WHAT IS THIS...?
...!
IT'S A BATTLE ROYALE STYLE MURDER GAME.

THIS ISN'T A COMIC OR A NOVEL. THERE'S NO WAY THAT COULD HAPPEN IN REALITY.
THIS CAN'T BE TRUE.
THERE'S NO WAY THAT'S EVEN POSSIBLE.
THE PLAYERS FIGHT EACH OTHER UNTIL ONLY ONE PERSON IS LEFT.
THERE'S NO WAY... IT COULD HAPPEN.
!
A KNIFE...

I'M GOING TO BE KILLED!!

!
HUFF
HUFF

HMM
GOOD JOB, GOOD JOB
I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D PROTECT YOURSELF SO QUICKLY WHEN I AIMED FOR YOUR HEART
ARE YOU THE TYPE WHO'S STRONG WHEN IT MATTERS?
HIFF
HIFF
GET_
GET AWAY FROM THERE!!

OUCH!
I NEED TO MOVE!
STOP SHAKING...!
RUN!
AL-RIGHT!
WELL I DIDN'T THINK HE'D PUNCH ME.
IT WAS SO SHOCKING I COULDN'T MOVE.

THAT'S WHY...
PEOPLE LIKE YOU WHO REACT QUICKLY CAN SURVIVE FOR QUITE A LONG TIME
I SHOULD KILL YOU NOW.

THERE HE IIIIIIIS!
SCARY!
HE'S CHASING YOU!
HE'S FAST...
BUT IF ALL I HAVE TO DO IS TO RUN, THEN I WON'T LOSE!

AH.
がくん
I WON'T BE ABLE TO RUN LIKE I DID BEFORE!
IT'S NO GOOD.
THE WAY MY LEG IS NOW...
THAT'S RIGHT. I HAVEN'T TRIED RUNNING AT FULL SPEED SINCE I INJURED MYSELF.

IT'LL BE BETTER THAN NOTHING LOOK INSIDE YOUR BAG!
AH...
OKAY!

YOUR BAG!
W-WHAT SHOULD I DO? HE'S GOING TO CATCH UP TO ME AT THIS RATE!
THERE MUST BE SOME THING INSIDE YOUR BAG!

YOUR STARTER WEAPON THERE'S GOT TO BE ONE IN EACH PLAYER'S BAG
HUH?!

HUH THIS IS?!

!

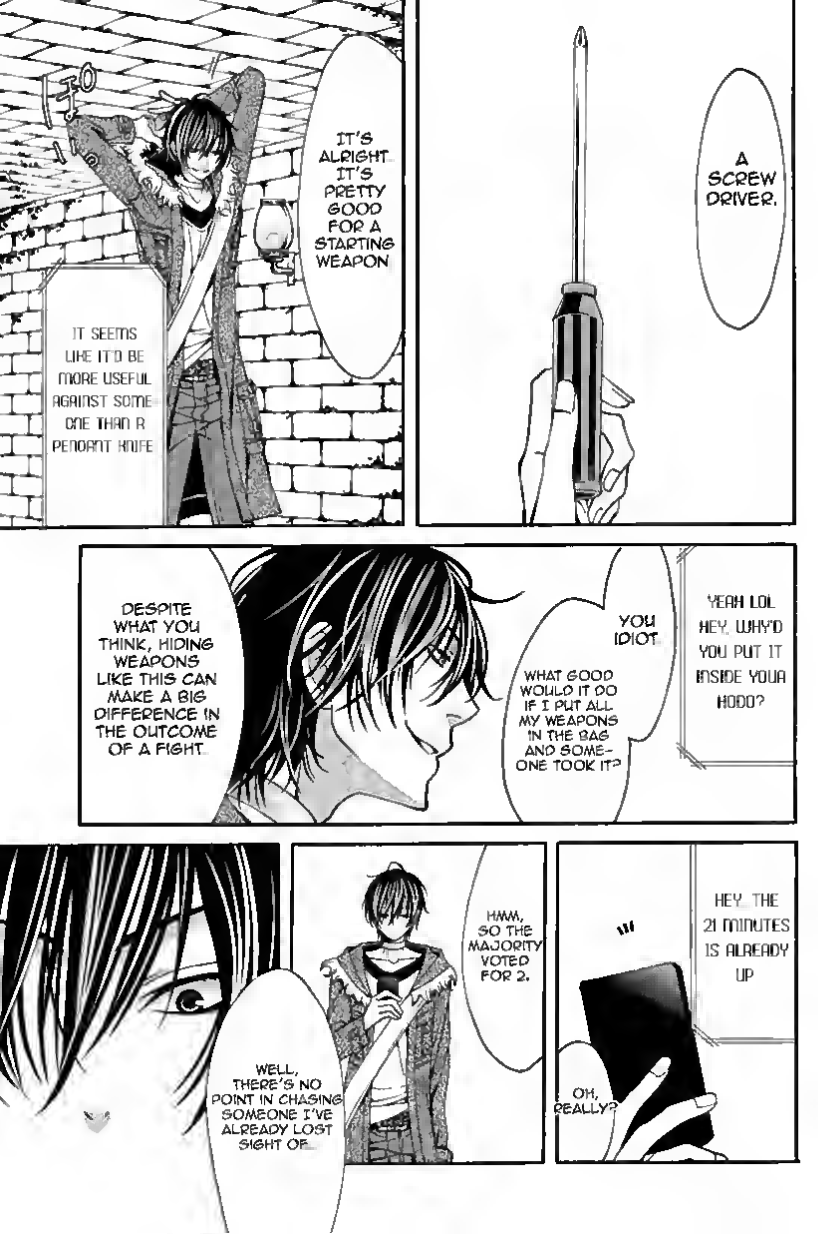
BANG
A GUN?!

A FIRE-CRACKER?!

I COULDN'T HELP IT. I THOUGHT IT WAS A GUNSHOT
WELL, HE DION'T COME AND SHOOT ME, SO HE PROBABLY HASN'T GOT A GUN
IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOMEONE ELSE WHO KILLED THAT OTHER GUY
RIGHT, I'M GOING TO START A SURVEY
YOU STARTED THE CHASE, BUT HE GOT AWAY YOU'RE SUCH A LOSER TSUBAKI
YOU GOT COMPLETELY DEFEATED, LOL
Teh
HE GOT AWAY
YOU GOT SCARED BY A FIRE CRACKER LOL

I'LL GIVE YOU 21 MINUTES.
1 CHASE AFTER HIM.
2 FIND SOMEONE ELSE
2
A REPEATER IS SOMEONE WHO'S WON THE GAME BEFORE. TSUBAKI'S ONE OF THEM.
WHAT'S A REPEATER?
2, I GUESS
1
2
REPEATERS ONLY START WITH HALF THE NUMBER OF POINTS
THAT'S WHY I'M TRYING TO EARN A FEW FROM THE COMMENTS
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE HANDICAP
I KNOW IT'S MEANT TO MAKE THINGS FAIR BUT THAT'S A PRETTY TOUGH HANDICAP. AH, I'LL GO WITH 1
SURVEY GOT POSTED!
B-687465
SURVEY
23%
76%
B-457884
2
1
REPEATERS HAVE AN ADVANTAGE BECAUSE THEY KNOW THE LAYOUT OF THE BUILDING AND THE GAME SYSTEM. SO THEY'RE GIVEN A HANDICAP

I'LL KILL EVERYONE AND WIN.
JUST AS I THOUGHT, THE BAG'S STILL THERE
WELL... I WONDER WHAT I'LL GET~?
OH YEAH THAT RUBBER BALL LOL HOW WOULD YOU KILL SOMEONE WITH THAT? LOL THE ORGANISERS MUST HAVE BEEN JOKING
I'M SURE WHATEVER'S IN THERE IS BETTER THAN YOUR STARTER WEAPON
NO... I THINK YOU COULD DO IT IF YOU TRIED. IF YOU THREW IT IN FRONT OF SOMEONE WHO WAS RUNNING AT FULL SPEED, IT COULD BE LIKE A BANANA PEEL...
OH!


IT SEEMS LIKE IT'D BE MORE USEFUL AGAINST SOMEONE THAN A PENDANT KNIFE.
IT'S ALRIGHT. IT'S PRETTY GOOD FOR A STARTING WEAPON.
A SCREW DRIVER.
DESPITE WHAT YOU THINK, HIDING WEAPONS LIKE THIS CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE IN THE OUTCOME OF A FIGHT.
YOU IDIOT.
WHAT GOOD WOULD IT DO IF I PUT ALL MY WEAPONS IN THE BAG AND SOMEONE TOOK IT?
YEAH LOL. HEY, WHY'D YOU PUT IT INSIDE YOUR HOOD?
WELL, THERE'S NO POINT IN CHASING SOMEONE I'VE ALREADY LOST SIGHT OF.
HMM, SO THE MAJORITY VOTED FOR 2.
HEY, THE 21 MINUTES IS ALREADY UP.
OH, REALLY?

CHASING AFTER IT WOULD BE THE NORMAL THING TO DO
THAT SURVEY WAS A WASTE OF TIME I'M GOING TO CHASE AFTER HIM
HE'S LEADING ME TO HIM ANYWAY
HUH WHY'D YOU SUDDENLY DECIDE TO DO THAT?
HEY HEY WHAT MADE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND? LOL
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN JUST NOW? LOL
THE BAIT IS DANGLING RIGHT BEFORE ME

THE GAME OF TAG BEGINS.

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
DID YOU OUTRUN HIM?
HEY ARE YOU STILL ALIVE?
AH RIGHT THERE S NO CAMERA IN HERE.
I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING... DID HE STOP CHASING ME?
...NO! HE MIGHT NOTICE ME IF I MAKE A SOUND.
.....

THAT PERSON EARLIER WAS REALLY TRYING TO KILL ME.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT IT WAS STRANGE THAT HE DIDN'T SEEM TO BE BOTHERED THAT THERE WAS A PERSON ON THE GROUND BLEEDING NEARBY.
HE WAS AFTER ME FROM THE START.
ARE PEOPLE REALLY KILLING EACH OTHER HERE?
HELP ME...
BIG BRO-THER...!
I DON'T UNDER-STAND.
I'M SCARED.
A KILLING GAME. CAN I REALLY BELIEVE THAT?
I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE!
NO. IT'S NOT ABOUT WHETHER I BELIEVE OR NOT.

HOW DID HE KNOW I WAS HERE?!
I WAS SURE THAT I TOTALLY LOST HIM EARLIER!
NO WAY... DID HE CHASE AFTER ME?!
!
WELL...
WHERE ARE YOU--?

CLATTER

I'M SCARED... I'M SCARED
THE FOOTSTEPS ARE SLOWLY COMING CLOSER
DOES HE KNOW WHERE I AM?!
I FEEL AS IF THE SOUND OF MY HEART-BEAT CAN BE HEARD OUTSIDE...!

.....?

FOUND YOU.

A DESPERATE SITUATION...!!
TO BE CONTINUED 2/2